## **How To Use Seamless Data Distribution System (SDDS)**

**Seamless Data Distribution System (SDDS)** (<a href="http://seamless.usgs.gov">http://seamless.usgs.gov</a>) enables a user to view and download many geospatial data layers, such as National Elevation Dataset, National Land Cover Dataset, High Resolution Orthoimagery, and many more. This tutorial is designed to guide a user through the download process.

Information about SDDS, **Product Information**, **FAQ's**, and homepage **Links** are accessible through the home page. Each page contains a **HELP** button that offers assistance and information for the corresponding page.

# **Accessing Interactive Map**

Click on either 'View and Download United States Data' link or 'View and Download International Data' link.





The two interactive maps function the same, but start with the different views, as shown above.

**Note:** If a map does not appear, check the Web Requirements and set the computer display settings screen resolution to 1280 X 1024.

# **Using Interactive Map**

#### **Locate Area of Interest**

1. Use the **Zoom** buttons



to help locate the area of interest.

2. The **Display** layers provide reference points to assist in locating an area of interest. More display data layers become available as an area is zoomed into. **Add and subtract** display data layers by clicking the **arrow** next to the desired category. This will provide a list of layers. **Click the box** next the desired layer and it will automatically display on the map.



## **Query and Other Tools**

1. **Query** tools specific area.



are provided to aid in gathering information about a

- 2. Using the image above, starting from left to right, top to bottom:
  - ◆ **Identify Button** Click on button, then on the map. A page will display with feature information.
  - Find Button Click on button. A box will appear to enter a placename.
  - Elevation Button Click on button, then click anywhere on the map. Below the map display, the elevation, in feet, will appear, as well as coordinates and data source.
  - ◆ US National Grid Button Click on button, then click anywhere on the map. Below the map display, the US National Grid coordinate is displayed.
  - ◆ Elevation Profile Click on button, click on the map at a starting point. Click an ending point to see the elevation change between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> point. Below the map, click on Generate Profile for 2 Points. A graph will display showing the change in elevation.
- 3. The other **tools**



shown have varying functions.

- 4. Using the image above, starting from left to right, top to bottom:
  - **Pan Button** Click on button, then grab the map and move in any direction.
  - ◆ Measure Button Click on button, then click two points on the map to measure miles.
  - **Eraser Button** Click on button and any requests are cancelled.
  - **Print Button** Once area of interest is in the map display window and a print is desired, click on the print button. A window will appear for a title, then submit the request. A request for that area is made to a server and a .pdf file is being created. Once complete, the file will display and it can printed or saved to a computer.
  - **Metadata Button** Click on button. Below the map a dropdown will appear. Select a product to view metadata. Click on the map and if the product is available for that area a window will display the metadata.

#### **Select Product to Download**

1. Once the area of interest is decided, the next step is to **select** the **product** (**s**) to download.

2. On the right side, click the **Download Tab**. Click on the **arrow** next the desired category. A list will display of **available products**. Click the **box beside the product**. This will flag the system that **National Elevation Dataset (NED) 1 arc second data** will be downloaded.

Out Scale ~ 1:76,040,550

Layers

Display Download

▼Elevation

□ 1" NED

□ 2" NED

□ 1/3" NED

□ SRTM 90m

[Research]

□ SRTM 30m

[Research]

Land Cover

Orthoimagery

Transportation

#### **Download Tools to Define Area**

1. **Download** tools the information to



are used to mark the area of interest and submit the system to extract.

2. The first button is Select By Rectangle. Click on button. Next using the mouse, click and drag a box over the area of interest. The outline box will appear green as it is drawn. Releasing the mouse will start the processing page. There is a limit to the size of area that can be downloaded at a time. The type of product and the more products selected, the smaller the area that can be selected. The limit is reached when the outline box turns red. A message will display that the limit has been reached and to redefine the area. Below are two examples of size limits of products:

Example Illustrating NED 1 arc second Maximum Size

Example Illustrating
High Resolution Orthoimagery
Maximum Size



(Green box around the state of Kansas)

(Green box around Washington DC area)

- 3. The **second button is Define Area By Coordinates.** Click on button. A popup will appear. **Enter coordinates and click OK**, then the processing page will start.
- 4. The processing page will compile the area and product selected, as well as calculate a size estimate for downloading. Once the processing page is complete, the **SDDS Request Summary** page will display the results.

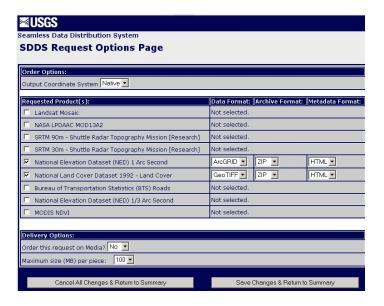
**Note:** *Templates (ex. 7.5 min quadrangles) will be added as they are created.* 

## **SDDS Request Summary Page**

- 1. The **SDDS Request Summary** page contains:
  - **List of product (s) selected** The list contains the product (s) selected, a thumbnail of the product, coordinates of the download piece, estimated size of the download pieces, data host name, and download button.



• Link to different download options -- Modify Data Request allows a user to change the defaults for the download product. Modifications can be made to Data Format, Archive Format, and Metadata Format. Products can be checked or unchecked.



 HELP – Information about SDDS Request Summary page and Modify Data Request.

**Note:** The SDDS Request Summary page can be bookmarked to save and return to at a later time.

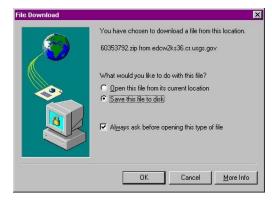
### **Downloading**

1.Click the download button from the SDDS Request Summary list. Current Order Status page will appear, providing messages of the progress of the extraction. A request is made to the product database to extract the defined area and product. The extraction progress is displayed in the popup window.



2. Once 'Raster Extraction Complete' is displayed, a SAVE option will appear. The random numbered zip file can be saved to the computer hard drive.





4. Unzip the file and it is ready to for use.